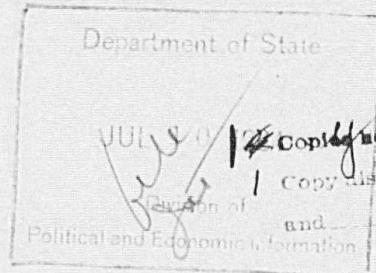
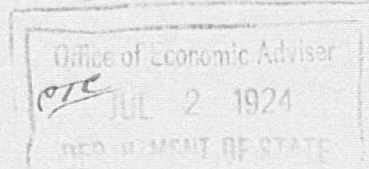


138670



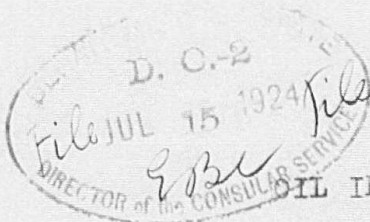
COPY IN FILE

Copies hereof to be sent to Comm.Copy also to ENR. & A.

A+

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JUL 2 1924

DIVISION OF
WESTERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

OIL INDICATIONS IN THE ITALIAN COLONY OF ERITREA.

JUL 17 1924

DEPT. OF STATE

JUL 16 1924

ACKNOWLEDGED

From Leon Dominian

American Consul.

Rome, Italy.

Date of Preparation: June 16, 1924.

Date of Mailing: June 17, 1924.

Approved

Consul General.

According to Professor Aldo Bibolini, writing in the Bollettino di Informazione Economiche published by the Italian Ministry of Colonies (No. 2-19-24), the existence of oil bearing hydrocarbons has been ascertained in the environs of Massowah as well as on the island of Bu-el-Hissar, one of the group of the Dahlak islands lying off Massowah in the Red Sea.

/ The

8654.6363

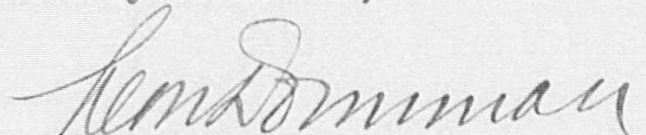
JUL 21 1924

The Massowah emanations are stated to have been discovered since 1920 in the vicinity of the salt deposits worked near that city.

The Bu-el-Hissar manifestations are observable at a distance of a mile to the northeast of the island. Here liquid and gas bubbles of hydrocarbons float on the sea surface in calm weather. The bottom of the sea at this point has a depth of 14 meters (45.9 ft.) and consists of coral sands.

A drill hole was sunk for a depth of 160 meters (524.9 ft.) in the eastern section of the island. In comparing the sections crossed by the drilling with results of Egyptian boreholes elsewhere in the Red Sea, Professor Bibolini concludes that drilling must be carried at a greater depth in the island in order to produce results, and in view of geological analyses between the formations underlying the island and those in which oil has been found elsewhere in the Red Sea region.

Respectfully submitted,


Leon Dominian.

American Consul.

863

LD.AIW

Enclosures: Four Copies of Report.

OIL INDICATIONS IN THE ITALIAN COLONY
OF ERITREA.

From Leon Dominian

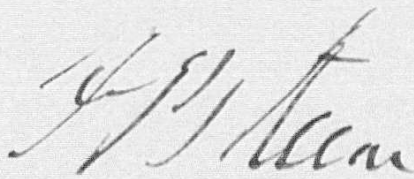
American Consul.

Rome, Italy.

Date of Preparation: June 16, 1924.

Date of Mailing: June 17, 1924.

Approved



Consul General.

According to Professor Aldo Bibolini, writing in the Bollettino di Informazione Economiche published by the Italian Ministry of Colonies (No. 2-19-24), the existence of oil bearing hydrocarbons has been ascertained in the environs of Massowah as well as on the island of Bu-el-Hissar, one of the group of the Dahlak islands lying off Massowah in the Red Sea.

/ The

The Massowah emanations are stated to have been discovered since 1920 in the vicinity of the salt deposits worked near that city.

The Bu-el-Hissar manifestations are observable at a distance of a mile to the northeast of the island. Here liquid and gas bubbles of hydrocarbons float on the sea surface in calm weather. The bottom of the sea at this point has a depth of 14 meters (45.9 ft.) and consists of coral sands.

A drill hole was sunk for a depth of 160 meters (524.9 ft.) in the eastern section of the island. In comparing the sections crossed by the drilling with results of Egyptian boreholes elsewhere in the Red Sea, Professor Bibolini concludes that drilling must be carried at a greater depth in the island in order to produce results, and in view of geological analyses between the formations underlying the island and those in which oil has been found elsewhere in the Red Sea region.

Respectfully submitted,

Leon Dominian

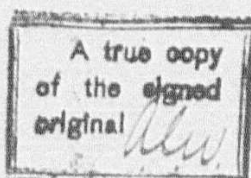
Leon Dominian.

American Consul.

863

LD.AIW

Enclosures: Four Copies of Report.



Central File: Decimal File 865A.6363, Internal Affairs Of States, Mines. Mining. Concessions., Carbon. Graphite., Eritrea, Petroleum., no date. n.d. MS European Colonialism in the Early 20th Century. National Archives (United States). Archives Unbound, [link.gale.com%2Fapps%2Fdoc%2FSC5109729363%2FGDSC%3Fu%3Domni%26sid%3Dbookmark-GDSC](https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/FSC5109729363/FGDSC?u=3Domni%26sid%3Dbookmark-GDSC). Accessed 18 June 2025.